



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/852,861	05/10/2001	Ken Lang	KLQ-004	5134

959 7590 11/17/2004  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP.  
28 STATE STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02109

EXAMINER

WASYLCHAK, STEVEN R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3624

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/852,861

Applicant(s)

KEN LANG

Examiner

Steven R. Wasylchak

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2001.  
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 3624

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

1. Claim 12 is objected to as a 101 non-statutory subject matter lacking the characteristics of being useful, tangible and concrete (lacks a technological aspect).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the

rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sakamaki et al.(US 6,658,410).

### CLAIMS:

- 1.A method, comprising the steps of:

providing an automated reputation service for furnishing information

regarding reputations of parties relative to multiple traits; and

providing a first client with access to the reputation service via a

communications network to furnish the information regarding a reputation of a

selected party relative to the given trait./col 1, L 42-59; col 2, L 62 to col 3, L 12; col 1, L

42-54

Art Unit: 3624

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of providing a second client access to the reputation service to furnish information regarding the reputation of the selected party relative to the given trait./col 2, L 9-28
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of providing the first client access to the reputation service to furnish information regarding a reputation of the selected party relative to an additional trait./col 9, L 9-28; col 2, L 62 to col 3, L 12
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of providing a second client access to the reputation service to finish information regarding a reputation of an additional party relative to an additional trait./col 1, L 42-59; col 2, L 14-22; col 3, L 12-25
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first client is assessed a charge for providing the first client with access to the reputation service./col 1, L 60 to col 2, L 8; col2, L 45-58
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the communications network is a computer network./fig 1,4; col 1, L 6-17
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the computer network is a wide area network (WAN)./fig 1, 4
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the computer network is the internet./fig 1, col 1, L 6-17
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the communications network includes a wireless communications path./fig 1(Q2)

Art Unit: 3624

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the selected party is a person./abstract; fig 1(J1)

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the selected party is an automated agent of a person./ col 7, L 46-57

12. A business method, comprising the steps of:

providing a collection of reputation data regarding at least one selected party;

furnishing at least a portion of the reputation data to a client; and

accepting remuneration for furnishing the portion of reputation data to the client./refer to claim 1,5

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the remuneration is monetary remuneration./refer to claim 5

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the client provides the remuneration on behalf of the client./refer to claim 5

15. The method of claim 12, wherein a third party provides the remuneration on behalf of the client./ refer to claim 5

16. The method of claim 12, wherein the collection of reputation data holds reputation data for multiple parties./ refer to claim 4

17. The method of claim 12, wherein the selected party is a person./refer to claim 10

18. The method of claim 12, wherein the selected party is an organization./refer to claim 10

19. The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

furnishing the portion of the reputation data to an additional client; and

accepting remuneration on behalf of the additional client for furnishing

Art Unit: 3624

the portion of the reputation data to the additional client./refer to claim 5

20. The method of claim 12, wherein the portion of the reputation data is furnished to the client via a computer network./ refer to claim 6,7

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the computer network is the internet./refer to claim 8

22. A system, comprising.

a collection of reputation data regarding multiple parties; and

an automated reputation service for accessing the collection of reputation data on behalf of clients to provide clients with data from the collection of reputation data./refer to claim 12

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the automated reputation service accesses charges for accessing the collection of reputation data on behalf of the client./refer to claim 13,14,15

24. The system of claim 22, wherein the automated service includes an interface for the clients to access the automated reputation services via a network./refer to claim 6,7,8

25. The system of claim 22, wherein the interface enables clients to access the automated reputation service via the Internet./refer to claim 6,7,8

26. The system of claim 22, wherein the collection of reputation data contains reputation data for multiple traits for as least one of the parties./ refer to claim 3, 4, 16

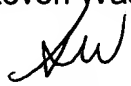
Art Unit: 3624

This action is **NON-FINAL**. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven R. Wasylchak whose telephone number is (703) 308-2848. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin, can be reached at (703) 308-1065. The fax number for Art Unit 3624 is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Steven Wasylchak

  
11/13/04



VINCENT MILLIN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600